



AIL1020

Foundations of Statistics & Probability

Instructor

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Module 02 Contd.

Percentiles



Concept of Percentile

Percentile

A percentile is a statistical measure that indicates the relative standing of a value within a dataset.

It represents the percentage of data points that fall below a given value.

The p^{th} percentile of a dataset is the value below which $p\%$ of the data falls.

Example

If a student scores in the 80th percentile on an exam, it means they performed better than 80% of students but worse than 20%.

In healthcare, if a baby's weight is in the 90th percentile, it means the baby is heavier than 90% of other babies of the same age.



Concept of Percentile

Quartiles

The p^{th} percentile of a dataset is the value below which $p\%$ of the data falls.

The **25th percentile (Q1)** is the value below which 25% of the data lies.

The **50th percentile (Q2 or median)** is the value below which 50% of the data lies.

The **75th percentile (Q3)** is the value below which 75% of the data lies.

These **quartiles** divide the data into four equal parts, making percentiles useful for understanding the spread and distribution of data.



Concept of Percentile

Percentile

For a dataset with n values sorted in ascending order:

1. Compute the rank index using $i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n + 1)$.
2. If i is an integer, the p th percentile is the value at position i .
3. If i is not an integer, interpolate between the nearest ranked values.

Example: Sorted Dataset

[15, 22, 29, 34, 38, 45, 50, 50, 50, 60, 68, 75, 75, 85, 90, 95]

Quartiles

Example

Data Values

90

32

65

28

45

60

68

85

35

55

78

48

18

52

21

72

37

40

12

25



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Quartiles

Example

Sorted Data

12

18

21

25

28

32

35

37

40

45

48

52

55

60

65

68

72

78

85

90



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Quartiles

Example

Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

Rank	Sorted Data
1	12
2	18
3	21
4	25
5	28
6	32
7	35
8	37
9	40
10	45
11	48
12	52
13	55
14	60
15	65
16	68
17	72
18	78
19	85
20	90



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Quartiles

Example

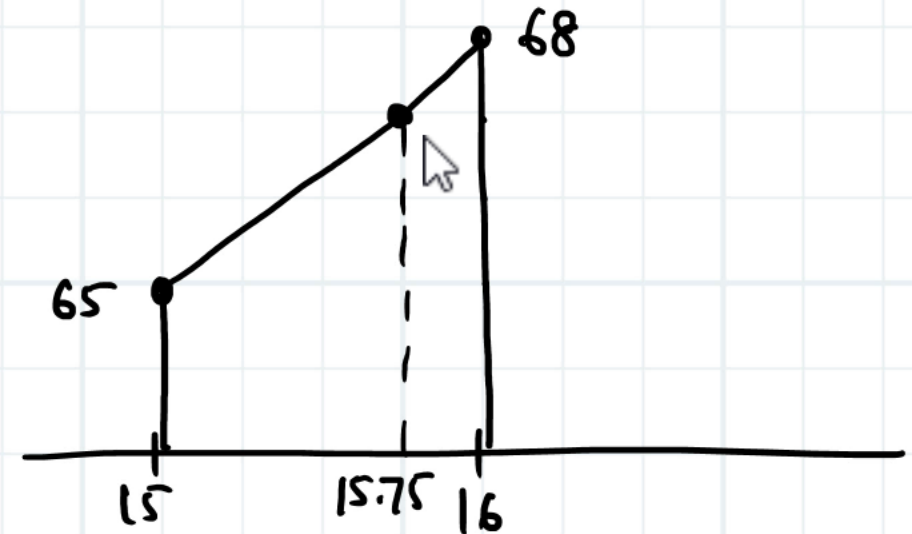
Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

$n = 20$

	Rank	Sorted Data	
	1	12	
	2	18	
	3	21	
	4	25	
Q1	5	28	
	6	32	29
	7	35	
	8	37	
	9	40	
Q2	10	45	
	11	48	46.5
	12	52	
	13	55	
	14	60	
Q3	15	65	
	16	68	?
	17	72	
	18	78	
	19	85	
	20	90	

Q3 (75th %ile)

$$i = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{75}{100} (21) = 15.75$$





Quartiles

Different Methods of Quartile Calculation

Method	Formula	Used By	Best for
$n + 1$	$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n + 1)$	Statistics software (NumPy, R, SPSS, etc.)	Continuous distributions, small datasets
$n - 1$	$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n - 1) + 1$	Excel, Google Sheets	Large datasets, business applications

Quartiles

Example

Find Q1, Q2, Q3.

Rank	Sorted Data
1	12
2	18
3	21
4	25
5	28
6	32
7	35
8	37
9	40
10	45
11	48
12	52
13	55
14	60
15	65
16	68
17	72
18	78
19	85
20	90



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On Google Sheets/Excel

PERCENTILE()

$$i = \frac{p}{100} \times (n - 1) + 1$$



Recap

Percentile represents the percentage of data points **that fall below a given value.**

Quartiles (Q1, Q2, Q3)

Methods of quartile calculation